Iowa Department of Education

February 2009

Resources for Iowa School Leaders

#### FROM THE DIRECTOR

#### **Continue Important Work as Budget Process Proceeds**

This week we have seen some key steps made in determining the future of education funding, both at the state and federal level. Governor Culver released his proposed state budget on Wednesday and on the same day the U.S. House of Representatives approved a national economic stimulus package, which includes a possible increase in federal education funding. Both proposals will still face additional input from constituents and legislators, although we expect that the federal stimulus package will be decided before the state budget is finalized.

The release of the Governor's budget is the first step in a legislative process to determine the final state appropriations. His proposal definitely signals that there are many hard decisions to be made as a result of the falling state revenues. It should be noted, however, that the proposed budget does continue to support major priorities, specifically preschool, teacher quality, and the lowa Core Curriculum.

As the budget discussion continues through the state legislative chambers it will be important for all of us to understand that the state is facing difficult financial times, but the times also allow us to focus on our core mission to ensure that all students have the chance they need to achieve. The vision of the State Board of Education is "lowa students will become productive citizens in a democratic society, and successful participants in a global community." Keeping that focus front and center is not always easy when hard financial decisions are ahead of us.

There are many factors that we simply do not know at this time, such as will the legislature and others have additional priorities beyond the Governor? We also do not know the future of state revenues or what the March Revenue Estimating Conference will report regarding the status of the state's general fund revenue. In addition, the passage of the stimulus package in the House, which proposed increased funding in such areas as Title I, Head Start, and school renovation, is only one step in determining what the federal package may ultimately offer for education.

I encourage school leaders to continue their efforts to implement the lowa Core Curriculum even though hard decisions are ahead. Leaders in education, business, and government know that this is a significant and potentially ground-breaking effort on behalf of the state to improve student achievement. While we are facing tough times, we must continue to put student interest first.

We, at the lowa Department of Education, will provide you with information after we have had time to review all recommendations more carefully. I encourage school leaders to look to the Department for official education-related information as the budgeting process continues.

Judy Jeffrey

#### State Research and Development School Committees Submit Report

The findings and recommendations for a state research and development school have been reported to the lowa General Assembly by the two committees formed as a result of last year's legislative session. The 2008 legislature requested the committees develop detailed plans for expansion of the Price Laboratory School at the University of Northern Iowa as the state of Iowa Research, Development, Demonstration, and Dissemination School.

The finance and funding committee developed a plan for sustained operational and capital funding by identifying new funding sources and restructuring existing funding sources for the school. The implementation committee developed a detailed transition plan for expanding the Malcolm Price Laboratory School as a state of lowa research and development school.

For a complete copy of the report, please visit the lowa Department of Education's Website at www.iowa.gov/educate.

#### Majority of School Districts in Iowa Continue to See Enrollment Declines

This fall, 249 or 69 percent of the lowa's 362 school districts reported a decrease in certified enrollment, according to the lowa Department of Education (DE). Certified enrollment is used in the formula that determines state funding for public school districts.

This annual decrease follows the long-term trend of the majority of school districts experiencing declining enrollment. Since 2003-2004, over three quarters of lowa school districts have reported a decrease.

Some districts across the state did show enrollment increases. This year there were 112 or 31 percent of districts reporting an increase in enrollment. One district in the state reported no change in enrollment.

For more information, visit the DE Website at www.iowa.gov/educate.

#### State Board of Education to Hold Meeting February 11

The State Board of Education will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 11 in the State Board Room, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines. Please check the Iowa Department of Education Website at <a href="https://www.iowa.gov/educate">www.iowa.gov/educate</a> and click on "State Board of Education" under "Priority Links" for more information.

#### **Seclusion and Restraint Training Rescheduled**

The lowa Communications Network (ICN) training on seclusion and restraint has been *rescheduled* to February 12, 2009 from 3:30-5:00 p.m., at ICN classrooms located in each of lowa's Area Education Agencies (AEAs). The locations of the ICN classrooms are attached. Please contact Thomas Mayes at thomas.mayes@iowa.gov or 515-242-5614 with questions.

#### Senior Year Plus Status Update

The Iowa Department of Education (DE) is currently working with various stakeholders to develop rules for the Senior Year Plus legislation, and the State Board of Education will notice the rules this spring.

Senior Year Plus was established in May 2008 when the Iowa legislature passed House File 2679. The enacted statute creates a new Iowa Code Chapter 261E that consolidates and standardizes several existing programs that have the potential to provide college credit coursework to high school students.

#### **Prevention Program Guide Available Online**

The lowa Department of Education (DE) wants to remind school leaders that it has information online that can assist with bullying prevention efforts in the school setting.

The DE has developed a guide with 10 components and further descriptors to help evaluate any bullying prevention programs you might consider. The guide is attached and further information on anti-bullying and anti-harassment can be found at

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com content&task=view&id=1030&Itemid=1293.

For questions, please contact Cyndy Erickson at cyndy.erickson@iowa.gov or 515-281-8514.

#### **Race/Ethnicity Data Collection Changes**

The lowa Department of Education will adopt the new race and ethnicity categories mandated by the U. S. Department of Education. All state reports and data collections will require the use of the new race and ethnicity categories for student and staff reporting during the 2009-2010 school year. These changes also require parents/guardians to re-identify the race and ethnicity of students based on the new categories.

More information regarding these changes will be posted to the following Website during the month of February 2009:

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=44&Itemid=121 If you have further questions please contact Carla Schimelfenig at 281-3111 or <a href="mailto:carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov">carla.schimelfenig@iowa.gov</a>.

#### Visiting Teacher from Spain Program Now Available

The Visiting Teacher from Spain Program is an exciting venture between the Iowa Department of Education (DE) and the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain. The program provides local school districts with the opportunity to fill vacant Spanish teaching positions.

With this program, Iowa school systems have the option of recruiting highly qualified Spanish educators for a period of up to three years and at the same time provide Iowa students, parents, and communities the opportunity to work with professionals from other countries. The visiting teachers are certified Spanish language educators with at least two years of experience. Local school districts hire the visiting teachers in accordance with all other local policies in terms of salary scale, licensure, and local system requirements.

This program strives to:

- Promote cultural and educational relations that will benefit the state of Iowa and Spain;
- Foster knowledge and appreciation of the culture shared by these two global communities;
- Foster an educational environment that supports both students and teachers in their continued and future effort toward personal, academic, and professional success;
- · Effectively utilize technology to promote teaching and learning of world languages.

Please visit the following Website for more information:

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=555&Itemid=575\_ or go to the DE's Website at www.iowa.gov/educate, look to the bottom right and select the link "A-Z program list," and look under "v" for the Visiting Teachers from Spain program. For additional information contact John Scott at (john.scott@iowa.gov, 515-281-3805) or John O'Connell at (john.oconnell@iowa.gov, 515-249-0334).

#### **Paraeducator Recognition Month**

School districts and other educational agencies are encouraged to recognize the contributions of paraeducators during the month of February in observance of Paraeducator Recognition Month.

The proclamation recognizing paraeducators was issued by Iowa's governor in 2006. A resource for supporting paraeducators is the *Guide to Effective Paraeducator Practices II* that was disseminated statewide in 2007. The guide and several other resources regarding paraeducator services can be found at the Iowa Department of Education Website at

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=773&Itemid=1297.

For additional information contact Norma Lynch at <a href="mailto:norma.lynch@iowa.gov">norma.lynch@iowa.gov</a> or 515-281-6038.

#### **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT**

#### Notices Now Available About Professional Development Opportunities for School Leaders

lowa school leaders may now subscribe to a mailing list to keep them abreast of the latest professional development opportunities posted on the Professional Development for Iowa School Leaders Website at <a href="http://iowaschoolleadership.org/">http://iowaschoolleadership.org/</a>. Please visit the site to subscribe.

List members will be notified of any changes posted on the site, including new professional development opportunities, updates to opportunities already listed, or other significant updates to the site. The updates will also provide reminders of activities coming up soon.

The Professional Development for Iowa School Leaders Website offers a one-stop resource to locate professional development available from some of Iowa's foremost providers. Nine Iowa organizations are charter members and post professional development opportunities. The partners are Iowa's Area Education Agencies (AEAs), the Iowa Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (IASCD), the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB), the Iowa Association of School Business Officials (IASBO), the Iowa Council of Administrators of Special Education (ICASE), the Iowa Department of Education (DE), the Iowa Leadership Academy (ILA), the Iowa Superintendents Finance and Leadership Consortium (ISFLC), and School Administrators of Iowa (SAI).

Professional Development for Iowa School Leaders Website project is funded by an Iowa leadership grant from the Wallace Foundation.

#### District Developed Service Delivery Plans for Special Education Services

All districts are required to develop a District Developed Special Education Service Delivery Plan by September 15, 2009, and include it in their Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP). Technical assistance documents on completing the District Developed Service Delivery Plan are available in each of Iowa's Area Education Agencies beginning in February 2009. State-delivered Iowa Communications Network (ICN) sessions will be scheduled to review requirements and address questions for those who are interested. For more information, contact Kiersten Hensley at kiersten.hensley@iowa.gov or 515-281-4123.

#### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

#### The 2009 Legislative Session: Where to Find Updates

The 2009 legislative session began Monday, January 12. This session is scheduled for 110 days. The lowa Department of Education (DE) will continue to represent the educational system in an attempt to facilitate positive policy enactment and adequate funding for educational priorities. The DE is providing several sources of information that may be of interest to you:

- Daily Legislative Update Webpage containing information on any legislation that impacts education: https://www.edinfo.state.ia.us/web/legisupdate.asp
- All legislative reports filed by the DE per statute: <a href="http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/blogcategory/412/890/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view-kid=1662&Itemid=1">http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/blogcategory/412/890/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view-kid=1662&Itemid=1</a>
- State Board of Education Legislative Advocacy Priorities: <a href="http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/blogcategory/240/873/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=778&Itemid=1">http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/blogcategory/240/873/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=778&Itemid=1</a>
- Legislative Briefings on various current programs or education topics:
   <a href="http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=1529&Itemid=2348">http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=1529&Itemid=2348</a>

The DE submitted more than 10 prefiled bills this year. Those bills can be found at <a href="https://www.edinfo.state.ia.us/web/legisupdate.asp">https://www.edinfo.state.ia.us/web/legisupdate.asp</a>. Additionally, the DE is willing to meet with regional stakeholder groups to provide information on legislative issues as needed. For questions, concerns, or further information, please contact Iowa Department of Education Legislative Liaison Konni Cawiezell at <a href="konni.cawiezell@iowa.gov">konni.cawiezell@iowa.gov</a> or 515-281-3399.

#### **LEGAL LESSONS**

The contact for all Legal Lessons items is Carol Greta (carol.greta@iowa.gov, 515-281-8661).

#### **Declaratory Order on Fees Affirmed by District Court**

After the Iowa Department of Education (DE) issued its Declaratory Order to the Ames Community School District on September 2, 2008, Ames filed a petition for judicial review in district court. On January 26, 2009, the court affirmed the DE's order in all respects.

The Declaratory Order can be found at

https://www.edinfo.state.ia.us/web/appeals.asp?book=25&decision=62.

The court's Ruling can be found at

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=970&Itemid=1

#### Anti-Bullying/Anti-Harassment Data Collection and Reporting: Changes

The Spring BEDS (Basic Educational Data Survey) collection of incidents of bullying and harassment will have a few minor changes to it. Those changes are as follows:

- Reporting will be at the building level.
- Detention will be added as a category under consequences (last year, schools and school districts included it under "Other").
- There will be two subcategories of "Unfounded" incidents. One will be "unfounded and no consequences."

The other will be "unfounded but with consequences under another school policy." This will capture conduct that did not meet the statutory definition of bullying or harassment but which violated a school's general conduct policy. For example, Sara calls Ann a derogatory name, but that's the totality of the incident. It's unfounded as not meeting the definition in Iowa Code section 280.28 (below), but Sara is disciplined under the school's general conduct policy.

lowa Code 280.28 defines bullying and harassment as follows: "Harassment" and "bullying" shall be construed to mean any electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or conduct toward a student which is based on any actual or perceived trait or characteristic of the student and which creates an objectively hostile school environment that meets one or more of the following conditions:

- (1) Places the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property.
- (2) Has a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health.
- (3) Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's academic performance.
- (4) Has the effect of substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

#### **Open Enrollment and Nonpublic School Students**

Parents or guardians whose children are presently in a nonpublic school but who will attend a public school next year (2009-2010) have the open enrollment option available to them, but they must comply with open enrollment deadlines. Therefore, if parents want their child enrolled in a school district that is not their district of residence, they must file a request for open enrollment by **March 1, 2009.** The open enrollment request must be filed with both the district of residence and the receiving district by this deadline.

The open enrollment request form is available from any school district and is available online at: http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=649&Itemid=636

#### **EARLY CHILDHOOD PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS**

#### Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Olds

The application packet and Technical Assistance Guidance Manual for the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Olds will be available on the Iowa Department of Education's Website on February 6, 2009.

The lowa Department of Education (DE) will provide two identical teleconferences regarding rules and requirements to support districts that may apply. The teleconferences will be held on:

- February 17 from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.
- February 20 from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. (repeat of the February 17 conference call)

The DE will provide two identical Iowa Communications Network (ICN) sessions to review the application process. The sessions will be held on:

- February 9 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.
- February 13 from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. (repeat of the February 9 ICN session)

The ICN sites and teleconference directions for the above dates will be posted on the DE's Website once confirmed (<a href="http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/view/940/1103/1/3/">http://www.iowa.gov/educate/content/view/940/1103/1/3/</a>).

#### STUDENT HEALTH AND NUTRITION

#### **Summer Food Service Program Helps Sustain Students**

The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is a valuable tool for lowa's school district. The program helps sustain school children physically, intellectually, and emotionally during the summer when regular school meals are not available. Iowa school districts may be eligible to sponsor the 2009 SFSP.

To learn more about sponsoring the 2009 SFSP, plan to attend the free SFSP General Information Workshop conducted on the Iowa Communication Network from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. on February 11, 2009 (pre-registration required).

To pre-register, please go to <a href="http://www.iowa.gov/educate/">http://www.iowa.gov/educate/</a>, click on "Nutrition Programs," click on "Nutrition Training Events" under Nutrition Quick Links on the right-hand side of the page, click on "SFSP-2009 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Workshops," and follow the instructions.

For more information, please contact Rod Bakken at rod.bakken@iowa.gov or 515-281-4760.

#### Youth in Action for a Healthy Iowa Held

Sixty high school students and their adult advisors spent a day in November finding ways to improve their school health environments. Ideas to improve nutrition and increase physical activity were discussed, questions were answered, and solutions were put into action plans on November 19<sup>th</sup> in Ames, Iowa. Students commented, "We learned many new ways to help our school get healthier," and "We hope to make nutrition based changes at my school, and show how youth can make a difference!"

The Iowa Department of Education's Team Nutrition Program and the State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council (SIYAC) sponsored the symposium, which identified the problems and solutions that make sense to Iowa high school students.

Four similar Youth in Action for a Healthy Iowa workshops will be offered this spring. Potential locations are Cedar Rapids, Alta, Creston, and Davenport.

For more information contact Patti Delger, Team Nutrition Project Director, at <a href="mailto:patti.delger@iowa.gov">patti.delger@iowa.gov</a> or 515-281-5676. Outcomes from event are currently posted at

http://www.iowa.gov/educate/index.php?option=com\_content&task=view&id=373&Itemid=1332.

Watch this Website for spring workshop registration.

#### Iowa Recommendations on Head Lice Prevention and Control for Schools

The lowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) updated "lowa Recommendations on Head Lice Prevention and Control for Schools" and fact sheets are posted at the IDPH Epidemiology (EPI) Manual site <a href="http://www.idph.state.ia.us/idph\_universalhelp/main.aspx?system=IdphEpiManual">http://www.idph.state.ia.us/idph\_universalhelp/main.aspx?system=IdphEpiManual</a>. Select "Information on Other Diseases" in the left-hand menu, then select "Lice — Fact Sheet for the Public," Lice — Fact Sheet for Health Professionals," and "Lice Prevention and Control for Schools." The recommendations are:

- Discontinue routine school-based screening;
- Discontinue "no nit" policies;
- Send children home at the end of the day;
- Do not use sprays and chemicals;
- Teach parents appropriate treatment techniques;
- Recommend family doctor consultation if medication does not work;
- Seek further information as needed. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Website is available at http://www.cdc.gov/lice/head.

Also, please find the updated brochure at

http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/common/pdf/headlice\_brochure.pdf
or order at <a href="http://www.drugfreeinfo.org">www.drugfreeinfo.org</a>.
If you have further questions, please contact Mary Rexroat, RN BS, Nurse Epidemiologist, Iowa Department of Public Health, 321 East 12th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-007; <a href="mailto:mrexroat@idph.state.ia.us">mrexroat@idph.state.ia.us</a>; 515-281-5046,

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

#### School Bus Technicians Compete to Be the "Best of the Best"

The "Best of the Best" competition is scheduled for April 18, 2009 in Marshalltown. This program will recognize school bus technicians for their contribution to safe school transportation in Iowa. The competition will include both a written knowledge exam plus a hands-on competition, resulting in the selection of the "Best of the Best" school bus technicians in Iowa. The winner will then go on to compete at the national competition in September. Enclosed is the registration form that must be returned no later than March 1, 2009.

For more information, contact Owen Freese at <a href="mailto:owen.freese@iowa.gov">owen.freese@iowa.gov</a> or Max Christensen at <a href="mailto:max.christensen@iowa.gov">max.christensen@iowa.gov</a>.

#### **CALENDAR**

#### **Deadlines and Dates to Remember**

January 31 Whole Grade Sharing Agreement — last day for board to sign

February 1 Dropout Prevention Program — last day to resubmit an unapproved application

February 1 Mentoring and Induction (M & I) 2nd semester count

February 9 School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) Hearing Request

February 10 Area Education Agency (AEA) Proposed Budgets due

February 16 School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) Exhibits due

February 20 Whole Grade Sharing Count Date

March 1 Area Education Agency Budget – last date for public hearing

Click <u>HERE</u> for a *complete*Iowa Department of Education Calendar

SCHOOL LEADER UPDATE is produced monthly by the lowa Department of Education for school leaders of lowa. Comments and submissions should be sent to Elaine Watkins-Miller at elaine.watkins-miller@iowa.gov or 515-281-5295.

It is the policy of the lowa Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, gender, disability, religion, age, political party affiliation, or actual or potential parental, family or marital status in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the lowa Code sections 216.9 and 256.10(2), Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000d and 2000e), the Equal Pay Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 206, et seq.), Title IX (Educational Amendments, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 – 1688), Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794), and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.).

If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by the Iowa Department of Education, please contact the legal counsel for the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319-0146, telephone number 515/281-5295; or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661, telephone number 312/730-1560, fax 312/730-1576, e-mail: OCR.Chicago@ed.gov.

Selection Criteria: Reservation: 540721

Reservation Number: 540721

02/12/2009

Title: Training on Seclusion and Restraint End Date:

Start Date: 02/12/2009 Scheduler: MICHELE RIDOUT

**Request Date:** 01/21/2009 **Phone:** (515)281-3038 **Fax** (515)242-5988

**Requester:** MICHELE RIDOUT **Email:** Ed.ICN@iowa.gov

Phone: (515)281-3038 Participants: 200

**E-Mail:** Ed.ICN@iowa.gov **Account Code:** 40270004

**Description:** Thomas Mayes - 515-281-5494

Audience(s): K-12 Subject(s): Training (Other)

Postsecondary State Employees

Session Date: Thursday, February 12, 200 15:00 to 17:00 Session: 1625005 Validated Multipoint

•	• ,	Site Status	Approval Status	<b>Account Code</b>
3	ELKADER-AEA	Validated	Approved	
7	CRESCO-CRESTWOOD-HS	Validated	Approved	
20	EMMETSBURG-CC	Validated	Approved	
24	SIOUX CENTER-AEA	Validated	Approved	
36	GRINNELL-HS	Validated	Approved	
39	WAVERLY-HS	Validated	Approved	
52	MAQUOKETA-HS	Validated	Approved	
68	WINTERSET-HS	Validated	Approved	
73	CHEROKEE-HS	Validated	Approved	
79	ATLANTIC-MS	Validated	Approved	
91	MT AYR-HS	Validated	Approved	
98	CHARITON-HS	Validated	Approved	
154	FORT DODGE-AEA	Validated	Approved	
160	JOHNSTON-HS	Validated	Approved	
173	CRESTON-AEA	Validated	Approved	
176	CLEAR LAKE-AEA	Validated	Approved	
203	MARSHALLTOWN-AEA	Validated	Approved	
205	COUNCIL BLUFFS-AEA	Validated	Approved	
216	IOWA FALLS-HS	Validated	Approved	
237	OTTUMWA-AEA1	Validated	Approved	
243	KEOKUK-HS	Validated	Approved	
266	BURLINGTON-AEA	Validated	Approved	
290	DUBUQUE-HS	Validated	Approved	
333	KNOXVILLE-HS	Validated	Approved	
350	CARROLL-HS	Validated	Approved	
353	MILLERSBURG-DEEP RIVER-HS	Validated	Approved	
397	LOGAN-MAGNOLIA-HS	Validated	Approved	
481	CEDAR FALLS-AEA (CART)	Validated	Approved	
483	DAVENPORT-NORTH-HS	Validated	Approved	
491	SIOUX CITY-WEST-HS	Validated	Approved	
556	CLARINDA-HS	Validated	Approved	
573	BOONE-HS	Validated	Approved	
574	BONDURANT-FARRAR-HS	Validated	Approved	
638	FREDERICKSBURG-SUMNER-M	Validated	Approved	
642	LAKE VIEW-EAST SAC	Validated	Approved	
658	WHITING-HS	Validated	Approved	
670	CEDAR	Validated	Approved	
710	TIPTON-HS	Validated	Approved	
726	LETTS-LOUISA-MUSCATINE-HS	Validated	Approved	

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## **Iowa Communications Network**

# **Reservations Report**

\* 803 DES MOINES-STATE LIBRARY3 Validated Approved 874 POCAHONTAS-AEA Validated Approved

Total number of sessions: 1
Total number of hours: 2.00

There were 41 sites used a total of 41 times.

**Conference Types:** 1-Multipoint **Conference Statuses:** 1-Validated

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#### 10 Components of Quality Bully Prevention Programs

#### 1. A focus on the entire school environment which includes:

- A comprehensive school-wide effort to fully identify and address problem area or areas
- A change in the environment to effectively combat bullying behaviors
- A change in student and staff behavior norms to successfully address the problem

#### 2. Data driven decision-making

- Decisions about the implementation of program components are made and modified after the analysis of data that is collected.
- O Students participate in a survey of their school climate and behaviors.
- O Parents and school staff participate in a survey of the school climate and behaviors.

#### 3. Support for any bullying prevention program is provided by:

- District and school administrators
- A majority of classroom teachers and Para educators in the building
- Clerical, custodial, food service & transportation staff

# 4. A coordinating group within the school takes a leadership role in the school's bullying prevention efforts. The coordinating group includes:

- o An Administrator
- o A School Counselor
- O At least One Parent
- o A Community Member
- A Teacher from each grade level
- O A Non-Teaching Staff Member (i.e. bus driver or custodian)
- A School-based Health Professional

#### 5. Training for the bullying prevention program is provided for ALL staff.

- o Administrators
- All teachers
- Health & mental health professionals
- o Support staff
- o Custodians
- o Bus drivers
- o Lunchroom supervisors
- Playground aids
- Volunteers

#### 6. Rules and policies about bullying behavior are developed and enforced.

- O Rules guide the behavior of children who bully & children who are bystanders.
- $\circ\quad$  Staff members' follow-up with consistent positive & negative consequences.

#### 7. Adult supervision increases in areas identified as "Hot Spots"

- "Hot spots" are identified on student surveys.
- All adults in the school community are vigilant to intervention when bullying behavior occurs.

#### 8. When a bullying behavior is observed, interventions are consistent & appropriate.

- All adults are prepared to intervene appropriately on-the-spot, whenever they observe bullying behaviors
- O Plan for follow up with children who bully as well as victims of bully behaviors and by-standers.
- Students are empowered to report bullying behaviors and know how to respond when they observe a peer being bullied.

#### 9. Classroom time includes messages and lessons on bullying prevention

- O A small amount of time each week is set aside to learn about bullying prevention.
- O Students and staff discuss bullying & peer relations.
- O Staff uses videos, story books, role-playing, and artistic expression.
- o Bully prevention information is integrated across the curriculum.

#### 10. Prevention efforts are continued over time

Although a kick-off event is generally held at the beginning of the implementation of a bully prevention program, the effort is sustained over time and does not have an end-date.

Adapted from "Bully Prevention and Intervention in a Post-Columbine Era" workshop at the Power and Empowerment: Iowa Governor's Conference on Bullying and Harassment, January 27, 2005, Ames Iowa, Susan P. Limber, PhD, presenter

# IOWA RECOMMENDATIONS ON HEAD LICE PREVENTION AND CONTROL FOR SCHOOLS

Head lice continue to be a problem for Iowa school-aged children. School nurses may spend a disproportionate amount of their time addressing head lice issues considering that they pose no health hazard. The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) recommends the following prevention and control measures for managing head lice in Iowa schools.

- Discontinue routine school-based screening. Current evidence does not support classroom or school-wide screening as a method to stop head lice transmission. Instead, schools should educate parents and staff about lice detection, treatment, and prevention. Parents should be encouraged to regularly screen their children for lice. It should be assumed that head lice are in the community and schools at all times.
- 2. **Discontinue "no nit" policies.** "No-nits" policies that require a child to be free of nits before they can return to school are not recommended. Children should not be excluded from school. Head lice can be a nuisance but have not been shown to spread disease.
- 3. Children should remain in school for the rest of the day if head lice are detected. Notify parents by phone, provide educational materials on treatment, and review treatment protocols. It is reasonable to expect that treatment be started before the child returns to school the next day.
- 4. Do not use environmental sprays or chemical cleaners at home or in the classrooms, lockers, or on gym mats or other school equipment.
  Head lice do not live "off" the body. The head louse must maintain a constant warm temperature. Only

ordinary cleaning, vacuuming, and washing in hot water are needed. Do not use chemical sprays on such items as audio/video headsets, tables or mats, carpet, upholstered chairs, school bus benches, bed linens. Sprays and other chemicals can be potentially harmful, since they can be absorbed through the skin and are irritating to the lungs of some asthmatics.

- 5. Teach and support parents in appropriate techniques for lice treatment. The lowa Department of Public Health advocates a two-week treatment plan that includes the use of an over-the-counter medicated shampoo which contains either permethrin or a pyrethrin. A handout for parents from the IDPH can be found at <a href="https://www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/common/pdf/headlice\_brochure.pdf">www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/common/pdf/headlice\_brochure.pdf</a>
- **6.** What if treatment with over-the-counter shampoos and use of a nit comb fails? Physicians may prescribe stronger treatments for head lice. Re-infestation is more common than treatment failure.
- 7. Further information can be found at these websites:

www.idph.state.ia.us/idph\_universalhelp/main.aspx?system=IdphEpiManual&Context=Lice\_Fac\_tsheet\_Genpublic www.cdc.gov/lice/head/ (CDC)

# BEST OF THE BEST



### April 18, 2009 Marshalltown, Iowa

This is a program to help recognize school bus technicians/mechanics for the important role they play in safe school transportation. This competition will include both a written knowledge exam plus a "hands on" competition to determine the "best of the best" in Iowa. The winner of this competition will then proceed on to the national competition to be held later in the year (around mid-September) in South Carolina. The national winner will then receive an award in November at the NAPT conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

<u>Completion of this form is a commitment of participation</u>. You should consult your administration, making them aware of your interest in this project and seek their complete support. In the event you win, it will be necessary to have several days off of work to compete at the national level. It's best to have in place this commitment of administrative support and arrangements for time off prior to registering for this competition.

This form must be returned no later than March 1, 2009!

You are eligible if you have one full year of employment by a contractor or school district in the school bus mechanic field, or if you hold an ASE school bus technician certification. You are responsible for your own expenses to attend this competition. All expenses paid for the person advancing to the national competition.

YOUR NAME:			
SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CONTRACTOR:			
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP CODE:	
PHONE: WORK:	CELL:		
EMAIL ADDRESS:			
YOUR SIGNATURE:		DATE:	
ADMINISTRATIVE SIGNATURE:(Administrative signature indicates s			

Send completed form, postmarked no later than March 1, 2009, to:

Owen Freese Iowa Department of Education Grimes State Office Building 400 E 14<sup>th</sup> Street Des Moines, Iowa 50319